



**KINGSWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**



ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEARS

1946/1947

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MEMBERS OF THE KINGSWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, 1946 - 1947.

Chairman :

Mr. T. BURNHAM, J.P., C.C., (to 15/4/46).
Mr. C. W. HARDING, J.P., (from 15/4/46).
Mr. C. T. FOXWELL, J.P., (from 15/4/47).

Vice-Chairman :

Mr. A. JEFFERIES, J.P., (to 15/4/46).
Mr. C. T. FOXWELL, (from 15/4/46).
Mr. F. G. POWELL, (from 15/4/47).

Old members :

(to 15/4/46).
Mr. E. R. BROWN.
Mr. L. C. YOUNG.
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Mr. A. H. BRACE, J.P.
Mr. A. G. RANDALL, J.P., C.C.
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(from 15/4/46).
Mr. W. BARNETT, C.C.
Mr. A. H. BRACE, J.P.
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Mr. F. G. POWELL.
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Mr. R. SHOESMITH.
Mr. A. R. TOMKINS.
Mr. R. N. YATES.
Mr. J. THOMPSON.

Members of Health and Housing Committee 1946/47.

Chairman :

Mr. W. BARNETT, C.C.

Mr. C. W. HARDING, J.P.
Mr. C. T. FOXWELL, J.P.
Mrs. E. A. GRIFFITHS.
Mr. A. F. HALL.
Mr. R. W. PARSLow.
Mr. R. N. YATES.
Mr. F. G. POWELL.

Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health, who is Medical Officer of Health to the South Gloucestershire Combined (M.O.H.) Districts :

JAMES MENZIES CORMACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.P.A.
(Appointed 1st May, 1938).

Senior Health Inspector, Housing Officer, Shops Act Inspector, Petroleum Inspector and Inspector under Factories Act :

GEORGE EWART CURTIS, F.S.I.A., Cert.R.San.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
(Appointed 18th September, 1933).

Additional Health Inspector :

OSCAR BATT DOWNING, M.S.I.A.
(Appointed 16th June, 1941).

Assistant Health Inspector :

*HOWARD JAMES BRYANT, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.
(Appointed 1st April, 1939).

Secretary :

Mrs. S. E. STOKES (to 24/6/46).
Miss D. M. HICKS (from 24/6/46).

52nd and 53rd Reports of the Medical Officer of Health.
14th and 15th Reports of the Senior Health Inspector.

* On Active Service from 15th November 1939 to 5th April 1946. (See later note).

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE KINGSWOOD URBAN AREA
FOR THE YEARS 1946 AND 1947.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kingswood Urban District Council*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Services for the years 1946/47. The report is the 52nd and 53rd of the series presented to the Council since the formation of the Urban District in 1894 and is submitted in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, based on figures supplied by the Registrar General.

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) General Statistics.

	1946	1947
Area of District	1,530 acres	1,530 acres
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-year)	17,660	18,260
Elevation above sea level (Hopewell Hill)	373 feet	373 feet
No. of inhabited houses December (Rate Books)	4,943	5,065
Estimated No. void houses (December) ...	Nil	Nil
Rateable Value	£82,695	£86,026
Sum represented by penny rate	£325	£337

(b) Social Conditions.

As during the years 1944/45 the general employment situation was extremely favourable and the demand for labour always exceeded the supply. Personnel demobilized from the Armed Forces were readily absorbed into industry.

The health of the area remains excellent and there were no serious epidemic outbreaks. Only one case of Poliomyelitis was notified during the countrywide epidemic which occurred during the summer and autumn months of 1947.

The greatest social need still remains the necessity for a separate house for each family unit.

(c) Extracts from Vital Statistics.*Year 1946.*

Live Births.	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate -	374	201	173	- Birth rate per 1,000 est.
Illegitimate -	22	9	13	- resident pop. mid-1946, —22.4.
				Birth Rate England and Wales, 19.1.
Stillbirths.				
Legitimate -	18	6	12	- Rate per 1,000 total
Illegitimate -	2	-	2	- population—1.1. England and Wales, 0.53.
Deaths ...	... 199	99	100	- Death rate per 1,000 est. average population, 11.3. Death rate England and Wales 11.5.

Extracts from Vital Statistics.*Year 1947.*

Live Births.	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate -	372	207	165	- Birth rate per 1,000 est.
Illegitimate -	8	8	-	- resident pop. mid-1947, 20.4.
				Birth rate England and Wales, 20.5.
Stillbirths.				
Legitimate -	15	8	7	- Rate per 1,000 total
Illegitimate -	-	-	-	- population, .8. England and Wales, .5.
Deaths ...	... 185	99	86	- Death rate per 1,000 est. average population, 10.1. England and Wales, 12.

Table showing Principal Causes of Death, 1946.

Cause of Death	Und. 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65-75 yrs.	75 & over	Total
1. Typhoid and para-typhoid fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	5
7. Other forms of tuberculosis ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	4
8. Syphilitic Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
9. Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
10. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus (males only)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14. Cancer of uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
15. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	5
16. Cancer of breast ...	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	5
17. Cancer of all other sites ...	—	—	—	—	1	10	6	8	25
18. Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
19. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	15	15	35
20. Heart Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	16	31	53
21. Other diseases of the circulatory system	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
22. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	2	2	4	4	12
23. Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	6
24. Other respiratory diseases	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	2	5
25. Ulceration of stomach or duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
26. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
28. Other digestive diseases	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
29. Nephritis ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	5
30. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Other maternal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Premature birth ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
33. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
34. Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
35. Road Traffic accidents	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
36. Other violent causes	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
37. All other causes ...	—	—	1	1	1	6	4	1	14
TOTALS ...	5	1	2	6	14	47	58	66	199

Table showing Principal Causes of Death, 1947.

Cause of Death	Und. 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	5-15 yrs.	15-25 yrs.	25-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	65-75 yrs.	75 & over	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	4
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
8. Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
9. Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and Oesophagus (males only)	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
14. Cancer of uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	3
15. Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	1	6
16. Cancer of breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
17. Cancer of all other sites ...	—	—	—	—	2	7	4	1	14
18. Diabetes ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	3
19. Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	—	—	—	—	1	3	8	12	24
20. Heart Disease ...	—	—	1	—	1	13	20	31	66
21. Other diseases of circulatory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
22. Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	5
23. Pneumonia ...	1	—	1	—	1	1	4	3	11
24. Other respiratory diseases ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
25. Ulceration of stomach or duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
26. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
28. Other digestive diseases ...	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	2	6
29. Nephritis ...	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	4
30. Puerperal and post abortive sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Other maternal causes	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
32. Premature birth ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
33. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
34. Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
35. Road Traffic Accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
36. Other violent causes	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	4
37. All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	5	9
TOTALS ...	9	1	3	3	13	42	54	60	185

II.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) Public Health Staff.

The members of the staff of the Public Health Department are listed on page 3 of this report. The Medical Officer of Health continues as Medical Officer of Health to the South Gloucestershire Combined Districts. Mr. H. J. Bryant, a Pupil Inspector of the Department, was demobilized on 5th April 1946, after serving for six years in the Sanitary Section of the Royal Army Medical Corps. At the end of 1946, he was taking a Post Service Training Course (full time) for Sanitary Inspectors, and returned to duty in October 1947 after having completed his course and qualifying as a Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. O. B. Downing ceased to act as Sanitary Inspector in the area after the 31st December, 1947.

(b) Laboratory Facilities.

The examination of swabs, sputa, milk samples etc., is carried out by arrangement with the Department of Preventive Medicine, Bristol University.

The new National Laboratory Service will come into operation during 1948.

(c) Ambulance Facilities.

These remain as before. The provision of ambulance service will be in the hands of the County Council after the 5th July 1948, but it is likely that the present system of service from Bristol area will continue with modified administrative arrangements.

(d) Nursing in the Home.

The report of the Matron of the Kingswood and District Nursing Association (Miss R. Hunt) shows that the good work of this Association continued throughout the years. The following table shows the nature of cases dealt with and visits paid.

Description	1946		1947	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
Midwifery and Maternity cases	164	3,284	172	3,717
General cases	360	15,312	372	13,905
Infant Welfare Centre visits ...		62		1,086
Ante-Natal (home) visits ...		679		95
Ante-Natal (clinic) visits ...		94		279
Post-Natal visits		175		247
Casual visits		226		65
Tuberculosis (clinic) visits ...		Nil		Nil
Attendance at Midwives' Clinic		758		716

Staff—10 Nurses including 3 pupil midwives and 1 Queen's Candidate.

One candidate entered for the examination of the Queen's Roll and was successful. Twelve pupil midwives have taken their district training, and have been successful in passing the Central Midwives' Board Examination.

(e) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Dr. H. Kenneth Cowan, the County Medical Officer of Health has kindly supplied the following information on the work of the Soundwell Health Centre :—

“ This Centre has now reverted to its original use as a Health Clinic. Daily sessions are held for the treatment of Minor Ailments, and during the year 1946, a Child Guidance Clinic was established. The Parents Club for Health Education which has been established for over a year is serving a very useful purpose. A Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee for the district has been formulated, and regular Meetings of the Committee are held at the Clinic.

The following brief statement gives information of the work undertaken during the years 1946/47.

			1946	1947
Minor Ailments Clinic	... No. of cases	...	1,139	3,127
Orthopaedic Clinic	... No of cases	...	215	235
Vision Clinic	... No. of cases	...	376	354
Ear, Nose & Throat Clinic	No. of cases	...	222	223
Tuberculosis Clinic	... No. of attendances		892	706
Child Welfare Clinic	... No. of attendances		2,241	2,118
Ante-Natal Clinic	... No. of attendances		1,032	1,165

(f) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary.

The Hospital facilities are as outlined in the 1945 report, and the implementation of the National Health Service Act on the 5th July 1948, with any modification arising, will be noted in next year's report. The majority of cases from this area continue to be treated at Cossham Hospital.

III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(a) Water Supply.

An examination of the water samples for 1946, shows that the West Gloucester Water Co., which is the Statutory Water Undertaking for the District, has maintained a wholesome supply of water for their consumers. A few isolated complaints were received of water discolouration, but these were invariably found to be a temporary result of repairs being executed to the mains.

Quantity. The amount of water available to the consuming public has been satisfactory although there were six drought periods of ten days or more during the year. Whenever necessary, the Company draws public attention to the need for conserving water supply during dry spells.

Analysis. The following table summarises the examination of water.

Source	Number of samples	Number containing B.Coli.
Shipton Moyne ...	25	—
Frampton	26	1
California	4	—
Bulk supply	1	—
Reservoirs	16	2
Consumers' taps ...	12	—
TOTALS	84	3

Supply. The number of domestic connections to the public supply at the 31st December 1947, was 5,202. The majority of these supplies were direct to the houses, but in a number of cases the supplies are outside the premises. I hope to supply figures for comparison in a future report.

Rainfall.

Month	Total Depth in inches		
	1946	1947	40 year average
January	2.79	2.38	3.09
February	2.85	1.58	2.26
March	0.85	5.47	2.08
April	2.14	2.47	2.02
May	4.23	3.30	2.22
June	2.50	1.43	2.72
July	1.08	2.95	2.87
August	6.49	1.08	3.07
September	3.83	1.55	2.50
October	1.31	0.31	3.50
November	4.69	2.53	3.11
December	2.92	2.80	3.56
TOTALS	35.68	27.85	32.56
Rain Days ...	174	166	165.5

In 1946, August rainfall was the heaviest since 1912. The heaviest days fall was 1.67" on 26th May. In 1947, March rainfall was the heaviest, while October was less than 1/10th of the 40 year average.

Analysis of sample of Shipton Moyne—Consumer's House tap—chlorinated water taken on 7th January, 1947.

Appearance—Bright with very slight flocculent deposit of mineral debris.

Turbidity (Silica Scale)—Less than 5.

Colour (Hazen)—Nil.

Reaction, pH—Neutral : 7.3.

Electric conductivity at 20°C : 610.

Odour—Nil.

Free Carbon Dioxide—20.

Alkalinity as CaCO₃—245.

Results expressed in parts per million.

Ca	Mg	Na	CO ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	SiO ₂	Probable Combinations	
79	9		147	44	47	Nil	16		
79			118					Calcium Carbonate ...	197
	9		22					Magnesium Carbonate	31
		5	7					Sodium Carbonate ...	12
		21		44				Sodium Sulphate ...	65
		30			47			Sodium Chloride ...	77
							16	Silica	16
Difference									9
Total solid constituents dried at 180°C. ...									407

Hardness—Total 23.0 : Carbonate (Temporary) 23.0 : Non-carbonate (Permanent) 0.

Nitrogen in Nitrates—0.0 Nitrogen in Nitrites—Less than 0.01.

Free Ammonia—0.20. Free chlorine—Absent.

Albuminoid Ammonia—0.000. Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 270C—0.00

Metals—Iron—0.26. Other metals absent.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in :—

1 day at 37°C	...	...	...	...	0
2 days at 37°C	...	...	...	...	0
3 days at 20°C	...	...	...	...	0

	Presumptive Coliform Reaction—Present	in—Absent	from— 100.ml.
1. Sample			
2. Result			
3. Remarks			
4. Date			
5. Name			
6. Address			
7. City			
8. State			
9. Zip			
10. Signature			
11. Title			
12. Institution			
13. Street			
14. City			
15. State			
16. Zip			
17. Phone			
18. Fax			
19. E-mail			
20. Other			

Bact. coli.	Present	in—Absent	from—
						100 ml.

Cl. welchii Reaction	Present	in—Absent	from— 100 ml.
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Signed : GORDON MILES, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Analysis of sample of Shipton Moyne—Consumer's Tap—
chlorinated water taken on 5th January 1948 :—

Appearance—Very faint opalescence with a very slight flocculent deposit of iron oxide.

Turbidity (Silica Scale)—Less than 5.

Colour (Hazen)—Nil.

Reaction, pH—Neutral : 7.4.

Electric conductivity at 20°C.—615.

Odour—Nil.

Free Carbon Dioxide—14.

Alkalinity as CaCO_3 —240.

Results expressed in parts per million.

Ca	Mg	Na	CO ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	SiO ₂	Probable Combinations.		
79	9.4		144	48	49	A	16			
79			118					Calcium Carbonate	...	197
	9.4		23					Magnesium Carbonate		32
		2	3					Sodium Carbonate	...	5
		23		48				Sodium Sulphate	...	71
		34			49			Sodium Chloride	...	83
							16	Silica	...	16
Difference									...	1
Total solid constituents dried at 180°C.									...	405

Hardness—Total 23.5 : Carbonate (Temporary) 23.5 : Non-carbonate (Permanent) 0.

Nitrogen in Nitrates—0.0. Nitrogen in Nitrites—Less than 0.01.

Free Ammonia—0.20 (N : 0.16). Free chlorine—0.07.

Albuminoid Ammonia 0.000 (N : 0.000). Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C. 0.00.

Metals—Iron : 0.54 : Fluorine (F) 0.3. Other metals absent.

Hardness : the precise figure calculated from calcium and magnesium contents.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

No. of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in :—

1 day at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	5
2 days at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	7
3 days at 20°C.	...	...	...	...	7

Presumptive Coliform Reaction— Absent from 100 ml.

Bact. coli. ... Absent from 100 ml.

Cl. welchii Reaction ... Absent from 100 ml.

Signed : GORDON MILES, BSc., F.R.I.C.

I am indebted to the Secretary of the Water Company for kindly supplying technical information on the water supply.

(b) *Other Sanitary Circumstances.*

The report of the Senior Health Inspector contains details of the inspections made and work done in controlling the sanitary circumstances of the area.

IV.—HOUSING.

Technical details with reference to housing will be found in the report of the Senior Health Inspector.

References have been made in previous reports to the very difficult situation arising out of lack of housing accommodation. Kingswood Council has done particularly well, in comparison to other areas of similar size, in the provision of new houses ; no less than 267 permanent dwellings and 50 "prefabs" having been erected up to December 1947.

It is requested that the need of general repair work—referred to in my last report—is now even more pressing, and it is of interest to note that at the Sanitary Inspectors' Conference in Bournemouth in May 1947, recommendations were made to the Ministry of Health asking that consideration be given to the very difficult problem of repairs to these houses which, if not dealt with now, might become a total loss in the future.

V.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

No outbreak of food poisoning has been reported to me under Section 17 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938, nor has my attention been drawn to any suspicious circumstances of this nature. The Health Inspectors have continued to maintain strict supervision over the foodstuffs in the area and their services are always available to any trader who requires an opinion on the condition of any foodstuff in his possession.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

(a) *Diphtheria*. 1946.

Aggregate number of cases reported	...	2
Treated in Hospital	... ..	2

It is satisfactory to note that there were no cases notified during the year under review of *Diphtheria* in children, and the two notifications in the table refer to adults between 20 and 35. The following return indicates the number of children in this area who have been immunized. The arrangements for immunization of children are now in the hands of the County Council as the local Welfare Authority. Free treatment is available, chiefly through Infant Welfare Centres and School Medical Services.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

I. Immunisation in relation to Child Population.

Age at 31. 12. 46. <i>i.e.</i> Born in Year	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5-9 1937-41	10-14 1932-36	Total under 15
Number Immunised :	37	134	205	208	215	936	764	2,499
Estimated Mid-year Population 1946	1,670					2,560		4,230

II. *Diphtheria* Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation.

NIL.

Diphtheria 1947.

Aggregate number of cases reported ... Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**I. Immunisation in relation to Child Population.**

Age at 31. 12. 47. <i>i.e.</i> Born in Year	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5 to 9 1938-42	10 to 14 1933-37	Total under 15
Number immunised :	36	172	163	324	319	1,420	1,072	3,506
Estimated mid-year population 1947	1,810					2,700		4,510

II. Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation.

NIL.

(b) Scabies.

The Scabies Order which was made early in the War under the Defence Regulations ceased to function at the end of this year. It has been found that the number of cases reported recently has materially decreased, but for the few that do arise from time to time, facilities are available by arrangement with Bristol Corporation at the Central Clinic, Bristol. Appointments are made through the respective Health Departments.

(c) Enteric Fever.

No cases have been notified and no investigations have been necessary in connection with this disease.

(d) Smallpox.

No case of Smallpox has been notified in this area and no contacts from abroad have come into the area.

(e) Scarlet Fever.

During the 2 years 52 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in contrast to 53 during 1944 and 31 during 1945. In accordance with general practice nowadays, most of these cases are nursed at home but where complications arise or home circumstances are particularly crowded, removal to Hospital is arranged.

(f) Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case reported.

(g) *Measles.*

Very few cases were notified during 1946, but in view of the fact that there were large numbers during 1944 and 1945, a fall in incidence was expected. In 1947, notifications rose to 235. It is understood that consideration is now being given as to whether notification is serving any useful purpose, and in view of the fact that only a proportion of cases are notified by Doctors, it is doubtful whether a notification is in fact of any great value.

(h) *Whooping Cough.*

There has been a fall in the incidence of Whooping Cough following the increased number notified during previous years. Immunisation against Whooping Cough is still under consideration, but the stage has not yet been reached where it can be said that immunisation is effective. Investigations are still being carried out by the Medical Research Council and in other local areas including Gloucester County, but pending full and satisfactory reports, widespread immunisation against Whooping Cough is not yet recommended. If immunisation against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria could be combined, this would be of great advantage, and it seems probable that this combined method will be available soon.

(i) *Infantile Paralysis.*

Two cases of Infantile Paralysis (Poliomyelitis) were noted during 1946 and one in 1947. The two occurred in one house, and special recommendations were made to the Housing Committee in view of the overcrowded conditions there.

Table showing Incidence of Infectious Disease in Age Groups. 1946.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	Total Cases	Cases admit- ted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	2	2	10	2	—	2	—	—	—	19	4	—
Measles ...	—	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	2	3	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	1	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1
Dysentery ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
TOTALS ...	2	2	8	7	3	17	2	—	7	1	1	2	52	13	1

Table Showing Incidence of Infectious Disease in Age Groups, 1947.

Disease	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & up	Total Cases	Cases Ad- mitted to Hos- pital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	3	—	1	2	—	13	10	2	2	—	—	—	33	7	—
Measles ...	5	24	28	41	32	101	2	1	1	—	—	—	235	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	1	—	1	1	1	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	10	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	4	3	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	7	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	9	25	30	45	33	119	12	3	6	4	3	1	290	11	—

**Table Showing Incidence of Infectious Disease in Wards.
1946**

Disease	North	South	East	West	Mount Hill
Diphtheria	2	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	8	4	1	4	2
Measles	4	—	2	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	9	1	1	—
Pneumonia	—	1	1	—	1
Erysipelas	1	1	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	—

1947

Disease	North	South	East	West	Mount Hill
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	13	6	11	2
Measles	36	74	61	47	17
Whooping Cough ...	—	9	—	1	—
Pneumonia	—	—	2	1	1
Erysipelas	1	4	1	—	1
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—

VII.—CANCER.

Deaths occurring from all forms of Cancer are noted in the tabular report and show slight increase over the previous two years.

VIII.—TUBERCULOSIS.

The usual tables indicate the notifications during 1946—1947. Shortage of beds and Sanatorium treatment remain troublesome.

Table Showing Tuberculosis Cases, 1946.

NEW CASES				DEATHS		
RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
24 years R.A.F.	15 years Scholar	10 years Scholar Rt. knee	8 years Scholar Mesenteric Glands	37 years Boot Operative	15 months Infant	36 years Housewife Pleura
15 years ?	42 years Housewife	5 years Scholar Neck Glands	6 years Scholar Neck Glands	54 years ?		
37 years Boot Operative	35 years Housewife			52 years Local Govt. Officer		
26 years R.A.F.	31 years Housewife			43 years ?		
32 years ?	23 years ?					
45 years ?	16 years Marker in Choc. Factory					
14 years ?	15 months Infant					
54 years ?	20 years Corset Factory Hand					
31 years Lorry Driver						
64 years Labourer						
(10)	(8)	(2)	(6)	(4)	(1)	(1)

Table Showing Tuberculosis Cases, 1947.

NEW CASES				DEATHS		
RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
28 years Engineer	26 years Housewife	6 years Rt. Tonsillar Gland	33 years Housewife	43 years ?		
44 years Fitter	25 years Housewife	2 years Cervical Glands	23 years Pleura ?	64 years Labourer		
68 years ?	18 years Clerk	7 years Cervical Glands	7 years Neck Glands			
22 years Traveller	19 years Dressmaker	9 years Hilar Lymph Glands	8 years Hilar Glands			
24 years Carpenter	7 years Scholar		26 years Peritoneum ?			
18 years	57 years Housewife		14 years Pleura ?			
Airman						
28 years P.O.						
Engineer						
32 years ?						
50 years Clicker	18 years Cinema Sales Asst.					
8 years Scholar	19 years Shorthand Typist					
25 years Cabinet Maker						
50 years ?						
17 years Clerk						
29 years Driver						
(14)	(8)	(4)	(6)	(2)	—	—

Table showing New Cases and Deaths (Tuberculosis)
in Age Groups.

1946

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 „ ...	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
15-25 „ ...	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
25-35 „ ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	1	2	—	3	1	—	—	1
45-55 „ ...	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	8	2	6	4	1	—	1

1947

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 „ ...	1	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
15-25 „ ...	4	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35 „ ...	5	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45-55 „ ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	14	8	4	6	2	—	—	—

GENERAL REMARKS.

I am happy again to confirm that the district has maintained an even standard of health, despite continued economic and rationing difficulties which still encumber us. It must be obvious however, that the paramount need at the present time is the provision of sufficient housing accommodation to allow young families to establish homes of their own. No effort should be spared in achieving this aim as speedily as possible, since all provisions for the building of a healthy environment can to a large extent be nullified by bad home conditions.

Much attention is being paid to the implementation of the National Health Service Act from the 5th July 1948. While the administration of the Health Service is of very great importance and interest, it should be appreciated that these alterations must be viewed as a whole ; with the implementation of the Beveridge Plan by other Acts such as the National Insurance Act, Industrial Injuries Act, Family Allowances Act, and others. There will, no doubt, be many practical difficulties before these various acts are co-ordinated together, but these changes cannot be viewed as other than a great advance in social science.

I would again record my appreciation of the active and whole-hearted co-operation of the Senior Health Inspector and Public Health Staff.

I am,

Yours obediently,

J. MENZIES CORMACK.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR
AND HOUSING OFFICER FOR THE
YEARS 1946 AND 1947.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kingswood Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present this report, covering the years 1946 and 1947, being the 14th and 15th annual reports submitted since my appointment in September 1933.

(1) Water Supply.

One sample of water was taken from a private well and found to be polluted and unfit for human consumption. A sample of water was also taken from a tap on the public supply and showed satisfactory results.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.

Practically all of the populated part of the district is connected to the Council's main sewers, although inspections have revealed cesspools, the existence of which were unknown. A subsidence in a back garden in the centre of Kingswood was investigated and found to be caused by a cesspool which had fallen in. Further investigations revealed others in adjacent houses, and steps were taken to secure their abolition. A curious feature was that they **overflowed** into the sewer.

No sewer extensions were laid, but one scheme for the Honey Hill/Holly Hill area, which had been deferred in 1939 owing to the national emergency, was authorised because of the existence of serious nuisance in the locality.

The Kingswood main sewerage scheme is divided into two parts ; *i.e.* the northern drainage area and the southern drainage area : the division line being roughly the crest of Kingswood Hill, following the natural contour. The northern drainage area discharges into the main joint sewer at the old Warmley outfall works, while the southern drainage area joins the trunk sewer near the

old Conham works. The report for 1938 included a detailed description of the Kingswood & Warmley Joint Sewerage Scheme, but for convenience, a reprint is included herewith :—

“ The Kingswood and Warmley Joint Sewerage Scheme, which involved the laying of $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles of sewer from Warmley to Conham and the construction of a large Disposal Works at the end of the Conham valley is now an accomplished fact. The construction of the works was completed during the year and although the official opening was delayed until 1939 (31/3/39) the works were put into use during September. I am indebted to the Joint Engineers (Messrs W. H. Knee and G. Fletcher) for the following notes on the sewerage and sewage disposal.

Main Intercepting Sewer—The sewage from the areas of the Kingswood Urban District and the Warmley Rural District Council is conveyed by a concrete and steel intercepting gravitation sewer. $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, consisting of 18in., 21in., and 24 in. pipes, and delivered at the Works through a 30 inch concrete main.

The construction of this sewer is interesting in that a considerable length is in steel pipe, carried on concrete piers overhead, through precipitous and difficult wooded country.

Sewage Disposal Works—The Works are situated at Conham, in the Area of the Urban District Council, near the River Avon and comprises $17\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The Works are designed to deal with daily dry weather flow of 503,125 gallons per day.

On analysis the crude sewage is found to be a weak sewage.

The sewage is screened and passed through a Detritus Chamber and flume controlled overflow, passing up to three times dry weather flow to Sedimentation Tanks and excess up to six times dry weather flow to Storm Water Tanks, recorded by Lea Recorders.

The Sedimentation Tanks, four in number, are of the upward flow type with a total capacity of 192,000 gallons, equal to nine hours dry weather flow, the inlet pipes being fitted with deflector plates and boxes to prevent short circuiting and centre stagnation.

The tank effluent is conveyed to eight circular filters by means of Dosing Chambers and Rotary Sprinklers, the filters being 89 feet in diameter and 6ft. to 5ft. in depth, providing for 56 gallons per cube foot of filter media. The filter media is metallurgical coke.

The Sedimentation Tanks and Storm Tanks are sludged to Pump Well and lifted to two Primary Digestion Tanks which in turn gravitate to two Secondary Digestion Tanks and then to Drying beds.

The supernatant water from Digestion Tanks and from Drying Beds gravitates to Pump Well and is returned to pass through the Works for re-treatment.

The effluent is conveyed to the River Avon.

The area belonging to the Committee, viz : 17½ acres, allows room for future extension, and on it is an existing house which has been converted into two dwellings for the Sewage Works Manager and Assistant.

	£	£
The cost of the Main Trunk Sewer		46,000
Contract Price of Sewage Disposal Works	39,862	
Land cost	9,393	
Cost on Conversion of Houses ...	440	
Conveyance Costs, Legal and Land Charges	913	
Other costs	3,393	
	-----	54,000
		£100,000 "

(end of reprint).

During 1947, the Council considered complaints arising from flooding in the low-lying parts of the area, particularly New Cheltenham Road and Made-for-Ever in the North Ward.

Flooding is caused by surcharging of the sewers in time of heavy rains, and mention has been made of this in previous annual reports. A report on the causes of the flooding is being prepared. (See following paragraph).

(3) Rivers and Streams.

The River Avon, flowing along the County/City boundaries at Conham, is under the control of the River Avon Catchment Board.

The Warmley Brook forms part of the Eastern boundary between the Urban District and the Warmley Rural District, and takes a considerable amount of storm water from the Northern Drainage Area.

Causes of flooding in the New Cheltenham and Made-for-Ever areas were examined, and following an inspection of the brook from Warmley Bridge to Station Road Bridge, it was considered that its choked condition was a prime cause of the flooding as the flow from the storm sewer outlet was seriously impeded.

(4) Public Cleansing and Salvage.

(a) Collection.

Owing to post-War housing development on the Council's Estates, it was found necessary to extend the refuse collection rounds and make provision for future development.

The district is serviced by two full-time collection teams, each with driver and two loaders, who clear approximately 5,200 premises per week. Two Karrier Bantam vehicles are in use—a

new one purchased in February, 1947, and one purchased in February 1942. Hygienic refuse collection is hindered by the use of insanitary and unsatisfactory refuse containers. Steel supplies are tending to ease, and dustbins are becoming increasingly available. Therefore the requirements of the Public Health Acts regarding provision of sanitary receptacles could once again be more rigidly applied.

(b) *Disposal.*

Refuse is disposed of at Mount Hill Tip under controlled tipping rules. The Church Road tip ceased to be used early in 1946 and the site will be developed as the future "North Park."

(c) *Salvage.*

Salvage collections have been maintained at a fairly satisfactory level, and two Waste Paper Drives in 1946 and 1947 stimulated collections. Paper, textiles, jars, bottles, etc., are disposed of through the Trade, and kitchen waste is collected separately from communal bins by Bristol Corporation, who service the district three times a week. Complaints of nuisance arose from kitchen waste bins and were promptly dealt with. These communal bins are not sanitary, and only the paramount need of utilising waste foodstuffs for animal feeding, makes their use tolerable. Successful experiments have been made elsewhere to collect kitchen waste separately, on lines parallel to the cleansing of dustbins. Increased yield of kitchen waste has resulted. The segregation of putrescible material from house refuse is desirable from a Public Health point of view, particularly when tipping methods are used. A house-to-house kitchen waste service could not only be practicable and profitable, but would be far more hygienic than the present method, which permits the public pavements to be fouled by overspilling of bin contents.

The amount of salvage collected from January 1946 to December 1947, is shown below :—

Material	1946		1947	
	Weight	Value	Weight	Value
	T. C. Q.	£	T. C. Q.	£
Paper	104 6 1	686	134 18 2	868
Rags	5 7 1	56	6 6 0	96
Bones	19 1	5	— — —	—
Kitchen Waste ...	248 8 0	—	170 1 0	—
Scrap Iron	6 12 0	17	11 14 0	31
Bottles	8 15 2	75	818 doz.	128
Jars	592½ doz.	37	854 doz.	26
		£876		£1,149

(d) *Costs.*

The costs of Public Cleansing and Salvage Services for the financial years 1/4/46 to 31/3/48 are taken from the Chief Financial Officer's Abstract of Accounts :—

			1946-47	1947-48
			£	£
Expenditure	...	...	3,036	3,384
Income	...	...	1,330	1,224
Net	...	...	1,706	2,160

(5) **Sanitary Inspections.**

Efforts have been made to tackle the arrears of repairs which accumulated through the War years, and the number of statutory notices served exceeds the average for past years. Several prosecutions were taken in cases where statutory notices were not complied with. Securing repairs and improvements to property is uphill work, and difficulties arise not only through shortage of materials and manpower, but because of the uneconomic rents which controlled houses produce. Costs of building repairs bear no relation to those prevailing in 1938.

Com-plaints Received	Visits and re-visits	Defect or nuisance	Notices Served			
			Informal		Statutory	
			Served	Complied	Served	Complied
53	33	Accumulations ...	17	20	—	—
11	23	Animals kept ...	5	8	—	—
—	40	Bakehouses ...	2	2	—	—
18	10	Cesspools ...	8	7	3	3
1	47	Cowsheds & Dairies ...	8	7	—	—
*224		Drainage } Choked; ...	59	61	—	—
	546	and } Defective				
*68		Sewerage } or Absent ...	23	20	13	13
24	217	Factories ...	16	13	—	—
3	203	Food Premises ...	12	10	—	—
—	3	Offensive Trades ...	1	—	—	—
398	456	Premises—Defective ...	211	159	23	23
40	16	„ Dirty or				
		Verminous	9	9	1	1
148	†45	Rats ...	—	—	—	—
—	94	Shops Act (San. defects)	5	5	1	1
—	58	Sinks (defective or choked)	12	11	6	6
6	10	Smoke nuisances ...	4	4	—	—
4	20	Van Dwellings ...	2	—	1	1
68	84	Water Closets (defective or insufficient) ...	53	38	9	9
18	9	Water supply (absence of)	5	5	1	1

* Includes "sewers" as defined in Section 24, Public Health Act 1936.

† Does not include visits by Rodent Operative.

Other inspections and visits.

Drain Tests (new houses)	415
Housing Investigations (Housing Tenancies) ...	886
Ice-cream premises	70
Cleansing and Salvage	316
Conveniences and Mortuary	51
Food Inspection	120
Fumigations I.D.	43
„ Vermin	3
Infectious Disease	50
Interviews on District	191
Overcrowding	1
Petroleum Act	33
Piggeries	3
Schools	10
Slaughterhouses	3
Water samples	3
Miscellaneous	546
Meetings	207

(6) Shops Act, 1934.

Opportunity was taken towards the close of 1947 to survey shops in the area to ascertain the extent of compliance with the Shops Act. In five instances defects were found and these were remedied.

(7) Camping Sites.

Three camping sites were licenced for use, and all were occupied only by members of one family. Another camp site in the centre of Kingswood, which had not been licenced owing to unsatisfactory conditions, was cleared after considerable trouble. Every endeavour is made to keep the district free from the undesirable "squatting camper."

(8) Smoke Prevention.

No atmospheric pollution of a serious nature was detected, although observations were made from time to time on various factory chimneys. The re-opening of a local brickworks caused some nuisance, but action was taken and improvements resulted. Complaints during winter months arising from burning leather were dealt with. The use of leather as a fuel on domestic open fires is discouraged, but little can be done to stop the practice.

(9) Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Infestation Order 1943.

Delegation of powers from the County Council under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, was a War-time measure to attack

and destroy the rat menace. Continuing under delegated powers, the rat disinfection section is an important part of the Department, under the control of a full-time Rodent Operator. Maintenance work on sewers was carried out half-yearly, but since the whole of the sewerage system was baited in 1945, very little re-infestation has been found.

The following table shows the work of the Rodent Operative during 1946/47.

BLOCK CONTROL.

Date	Section	Premises Visited	Clear	Infested
11 11 46.	1	740	715	25
	2	230	218	12
	3	598	562	36
	4	686	664	22
	5	823	813	10
	6	529	511	18
	7	502	489	13
4 6 47.	8 }	665	626	39
	9 }			

	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Other	Total
Premises Inspected and Revisited				2,964
Points pre-baited	76	1,521	1,407	3,004
Pre-baits taken	47	1,002	1,128	2,177
Poison taken	26	342	566	934
Dead rats found	46	129	176	351
Estimated killed	58	808	1,422	2,288
Premises disinfested	46	123	189	358

(10) Housing.

(a) *Post-War Estates—Development 1946–47.*

The construction of dwellings continued with unflagging energy, notwithstanding shortages of materials and labour which caused delays, and the severe winter of January–March 1947 which held up building for several weeks. By December 1947, 267 permanent and 50 temporary houses were completed and occupied.

The development of the housing estates is tabulated as follows :—

Year	Estate	Acreage of land acquired	NO. OF HOUSES.		COST AT 31. 3. 48.				
			Erected	Under Const. at 31. 12. 47	Total	Site	Roads & Sewers	Houses	Total
1946	PERMANENT Church Road, Hanham ...	0.56	6	0	6	£ 386	£ —	£ 6,399	£ 6,785 *
"	Woodstock, Kingswood	6.5 (pre-War)	59	0	59	2,039	3,124	56,907	62,070 *
"	North Park, Kingswood	0.72	14	0	14	103	16	14,078	14,197
1945	Woodyleaze, ... Hanham ...	14.197	69	42	111	4,915	8,008	114,203	127,126
"	Russell Avenue, Kingswood	2.4	28	0	28	1,805	5	32,189	33,999
1946	The Hollies, Kingswood (Munro)	18.984	85	29	114	7,623	19,104	126,309	153,236
1947	Lees Hill, Kingswood.	2.85	6	6	12	1,048	—	12,907	13,955
"	No. 1, Wellington Road. Kingswood.	Existing pre-War estate.	0	4	4	50	—	4,606	4,656 *
1945	TEMPORARY. Courtney Road, Kingswood.	Site on lease	10	0	10	—	—	—	—
"	Hollow Road, Kingswood.	do.	19	0	19	—	—	3,622	3,622
"	Hollies, Kingswood. (C. Davis)	.1073	21	0	21	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL		317	81	398	17,969	30,257	371,220	419,646

* Final Cost.

Sites acquired only (No development commenced)

Year	Estate	Acreage of land acquired	NO. OF HOUSES.			COST AT 31. 3. 48.			
			Erected	Under Const. at 31. 12. 47	Total	Site	Roads & Sewers	Houses	Total
1947	Hollies Ext. Kingswood. (Farm)	14.56	—	—	—	6,876	—	—	6,876
"	Holly Hill, Kingswood. (Atwell).	2.58	—	—	—	1,136	—	—	1,136
"	Holly Hill, Kingswood. (Iles)	1.037	—	—	—	495	—	—	495
"	Lees Hill, Kingswood (Perry)	6.82	—	—	—	2,204	—	—	2,204
"	Northfield Avenue Hanham.	0.35	—	—	—	382	—	—	382
"	The Park	1.409	—	—	—	1,593	—	—	1,593

(b) *Analysis of accommodation provided.*

Site	Type House					Total
	Temp.	2 BR.	3 BR.	4 BR.	Others	
Hollow Road	19	—	—	—	—	19
Courtney Road	10	—	—	—	—	10
Shortwood View	21	—	—	—	—	21
Woodyleaze, Hanham	—	4	16	2	—	22
Russel Avenue	—	4	16	8	—	28
Church Rd, Hanham	—	—	5	1	—	6
North Park, Kingswood	—	—	14	—	—	14
Woodstock, Kingswood	—	6	49	4	—	59
Holly Hill, (Fringe) ...	—	6	38	—	—	44
Lees Hill, Kingswood (1)	—	—	6	—	—	6
Woodyleaze (No. 2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hanham	—	—	47	—	—	47
Holly Hill (Centre) ...	—	—	41	—	—	41
Miscellaneous Lettings	—	—	—	—	26	26
TOTAL	50	20	232	15	26	343

Lettings completed

(c) *Housing Register.*

No. of applicants registered at 31.12.47	...	713
No. of applicants rehoused at 31.12.47	...	343
„ „ „ removed from register at 31.12.47	371	—
		714
Total number registered since June 1943		1,427

Analysis of Register.

	Single	Married No Child	Married 1 Child	Married 2 Child.	Married 3 Child & over	Total
Forces (Kingswood)	16	172	118	31	14	351
Forces (Outside)	2	27	22	19	2	72
Civilians (Kingswood)	16	84	88	41	32	261
Civilians (Outside)	—	5	14	5	5	29
TOTAL	34	288	242	96	53	713
% of total	4.8%	40%	35%	13.2%	7%	100%

423

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(d) Lettings Policy.

The lettings scheme, approved by the Council in 1945, was at first used in selecting tenants from the very long waiting list. By the time the first houses were ready the points scheme revealed many outstanding cases, which were re-housed. In view of the number of applications it was necessary to fix a long-term policy, and the Lettings Committee decided :—

- (1) all groups of applicants should be considered according to length of application and conditions of living.
- (2) lettings to forces and civilians should be in the ratio 60% : 40%.
- (3) normally there would be a waiting period of at least twelve months before an application could be considered.
- (4) there should be a residential qualification of at least five years.
- (5) up to 15% of lettings would be to married couples with no family.

In order to implement this policy, the Committee met frequently and considered **all** applications received up to a given date. The housing list was reviewed at intervals and lettings made in accordance with need and circumstances. No allocations were made without investigations into home circumstances and checking of information supplied by applicants. The results of two years work are summarised below.

Analysis of families re-housed up to 31/12/47.

	Single	Married No Child	Married 1 Child	Married 2 Child	Married 3 Child. & over	Total
Forces ... (Kingswood)	0	21	86	65	29	201
Forces ... (Outside)	0	2	6	2	0	10
Civilians ... (Kingswood)	0	10	40	41	40	131
Civilians ... (Outside) ...	0	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL	0	33	132	109	69	343
% of total	0	9%	39%	32%	20%	100%

(e) Unfit Dwellings.

In October 1947, a report was presented to Housing Committee in regard to unfit property in the district. The report was based

on information already printed in a previous Annual Report (1939/43 Pages 45/46). There were 25 dwellings condemned before the War, which were void but not demolished, and 14 others were still occupied—the majority with the original tenants in them. Some were occupied on temporary licence. There is a considerable number of properties in the district in respect of which formal action under the Housing Acts would have been taken but for the War. In view of the dearth of housing accommodation, these insanitary dwellings must still be used, but the urgency of the position demands that action should not be long delayed.

Demolition Orders were made on 4 houses and notices to quit served on the occupiers. These were awaiting rehousing at the end of 1947.

Twelve cottages were acquired when "The Hollies" Estate and Holly Hill Farm were purchased. The tenants were rehoused and the cottages demolished.

Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936, were taken in respect of several other cottages and were under consideration in December, 1947.

(11) Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

During 1946 the arrangement between the Gloucestershire County Council and the University of Bristol for examination of milks ceased owing to the fact that the Agricultural Advisory Section was taken over as part of the National Agricultural Advisory Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Arrangements were subsequently made with the Department of Preventive Medicine, Bristol, for the examination of milk samples.

(b) Ice-Cream.

The Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations which came into force in 1947 permit two classes of ice-cream :—

1. Heat treated, and
2. Ice-Cream made from a completely cold mix.

This should help considerably towards the production of a cleaner article but the regulations are not without defect.

Ice-Cream premises have been inspected and samples taken. Whenever results warranted it, follow up action resulted.

(c) Food Premises—Meat and Food Inspection.

Routine visits have been made to food premises and whenever unsound food is reported, it is dealt with by the issue of informal surrender notes. It was not necessary to exercise the formal powers of seizure under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Condemnations of Meat and Other Foods 1946/47.

Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	32 lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	1 lb.
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Canned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	56 tins.
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	72 tins.
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	48 tins.
Canned Peas	...	...	...	...	...	26 tins.
Canned Beans	...	...	...	...	...	27 tins.
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	...	86 tins.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	59 lbs.
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	27 lbs.
Puffed Wheat	...	...	...	...	...	2½ lbs.
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Tinned Soup	...	...	...	...	...	13 tins.
Bread	...	...	...	...	...	150 quarterns.
Beef Luncheon Sausage			...	...	...	10 lbs.
Tinned Beetroot		...	...	...	...	3 tins.
Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	...	96 tins.
Jam and Syrup		...	...	...	...	44 tins.
Dates	...	...	...	...	...	12 lbs.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	15 cwts. 100 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	¾ lb.
Potted Meat	...	...	...	...	...	9 tins.
Mixed Veg.	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin.
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	7 tins.
Meat and Veg.	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin.
Oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	1 cwt.
Ruskit	...	...	...	...	...	25 cwts.
Carrots	...	...	...	...	...	23 tins.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin.
Dutch Mussels	...	...	...	...	...	12 tins.
Periwinkles	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin.
Dried Peaches	...	...	...	...	...	25 lbs.
Semolina	...	...	...	...	...	2 packets.
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	2 packets.
Jellies	...	...	...	...	...	6 packets.

(12) Factories Act, 1937.

A good number of visits have been made to factory premises, mainly in connection with the issuing of certificates as to means of escape in case of fire. Most of the factories were dealt with, but some were outstanding at the close of 1947. Fourteen complaints referred from H.M. Inspector of Factories were dealt with. Details of routine visits as required by the Factory Act follow.

(1) Inspections..

	No. in Register	Inspections	Notices	Prosecutions
Factories with mechanical power	80	210*	26	—
Factories without mechanical power	14	7	1	—
Other Premises	—	—	—	—

* including inspections re Fire Escape Certificates.

(2) Defects.

	DEFECTS.			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness ...	8	7	—	1
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Convenience—				
Insufficient	5	4	—	3
Unsuitable or defective	13	11	—	10
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	26	22	—	14

(13) Mortuary.

The following is a record of cases received into the Mortuary :—

Date	Sex	Age	Address	Post mortem held	Cause of death
2/3/46	F.	7 months	Hanham	Yes	
24/8/46	M.	78 years	Kingswood	Yes	Senile decay
29/8/46	F.	49 years	Kingswood	Yes	Cerebral Haemorrhage
2/9/46	F.	19 years	Kingswood	Yes	Congestion of Lungs
4/9/46	F.	66 years	Kingswood	Yes	Cerebral Haemorrhage
8/9/46	M.	44 years	Kingswood	Yes	Cardiac Degeneration due to Silicosis
20/10/46	M.	48 years	Kingswood	Yes	Coronary Thrombosis
24/10/46	M.	65 years	Kingswood	Yes	Coal Gas Poison
6/12/46	M.	71 years	Hanham	Yes	Coronary occlusion due to Athroma
20/12/46	F.	41 years	St. George	Yes	Laceration of the brain
23/12/46	M.	94 years	Longwell Green	Yes	Bronchial Pneumonia
7/1/47	F.	54 years	Kingswood	Yes	Coal gas poisoning
21/1/47	M.	59 years	Staple Hill	Yes	Natural causes
24/2/47	F.	56 years	Hanham	Yes	Coronary Thrombosis
3/3/47	M.	77 years	Hanham	Yes	Coronary occlusion due to Athroma
23/3/47	F.	81 years	Hanham	Yes	Pulmonary Embolism due to Bronchial Pneumonia
23/4/47	F.	55 years	Hanham	Yes	Subarachnoid Haemorrhage
3/5/47	M.	69 years	Kingswood	Yes	Haemopericardium due to rupture of the heart
25/7/47	M.	68 years	Hanham	Yes	Coronary Occlusion due to Athroma
10/9/47	F.	73 years	Kingswood	Yes	Ruptured Aneurism
15/10/47	M.	52 years	Hanham	Yes	Cerebral Haemorrhage
25/10/47	F.	70 years	Kingswood	Yes	Suicide by coal gas poisoning whilst the balance of the mind was disturbed
9/12/47	M.	61 years	Hanham	Yes	Pulmonary Embolism and chronic bronchitis

(14) Public Conveniences.

The sum of £89 9s. 5d. was collected from the Council's Public Conveniences.

(15) Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928.

Licences issued under this Act were as follows :—

Year 1946	...	...	...	Petrol	27
				Carbide	1
Year 1946	...	...	...	Petrol	30

(16) Concluding Remarks.

It was pleasing to welcome back to the Department, Mr. H. J. Bryant, after $6\frac{1}{2}$ years service in the Field Hygiene Section of the R.A.M.C. He subsequently took his training under the Government's Post-War Training Scheme, and qualified as a Sanitary Inspector in September, 1947.

Mr. O. B. Downing who was additional Health Inspector from 16th June 1941, relinquished his appointment on the 31st December 1947.

The period covered by this report has, if anything, been even more difficult than the preceding 2 years. It has been next to impossible to impose as rigid a standard of repairs as one would wish, for reasons already mentioned in this report. There is a tendency for dissatisfied persons to offer undue criticism and attribute delays in securing improvements to non-existent causes.

I am happy to record the continued confidence of the Council and the support of the Medical Officer of Health in the execution of my work.

I am, Yours obediently,

GEO. E. CURTIS.

Senior Health Inspector.

November, 1948.

